

SUMMARY MINUTES

ABAG CALFED Task Force Water Management Sub-committee Meeting

January 17, 2003
Conference Room B, 101 8th Street, Oakland CA 94607-4756

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Ira Ruskin called the meeting to order at 11:30a.m. and welcomed all members present.

Attendance was as follows:

Members Present

Steven Ellis
Amy Fowler
Barbara Kondylis
Jake Mackenzie
Ira Ruskin (Chairman)
Nicole Sandkulla
Doug Wallace

Jurisdiction

Zone 7 Water Agency
Santa Clara Valley Water District
County of Solano
City of Rohnert Park
City of Redwood City
Bay Area Water Users Association
East Bay Municipal Utility District

Guests Present

Fran Garland
Matt Nolberg
Mike Thompson

Contra Costa Water District
Department of Water Resources
Sonoma County Water Agency

ABAG/CALFED Staff Present

Terry Bursztynsky
Kathleen Cha
Patricia Jones
Vina Maharaj
Mary Selkirk
Kearey Smith
Kathleen Van Velsor

ABAG
ABAG (partial attendance)
ABAG (partial attendance)
ABAG
CALFED
ABAG/GIS
ABAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF WATER MGMT. SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES OF October 18, 2002.

A general consensus was reached to approve the Summary Minutes of October 18, 2002, with the following changes:

Page 3, third bullet item should read: *“They arrived at an increase in water demand of 18%, instead of the 4% that was reported by the Smart Growth Project”.*

Page 3, Under “Some other comments...: “ - in the first bullet item, the word “*replenishing*” should be replaced with “*depleting*”.

OLD BUSINESS

Draft Water Management Initiative

Mary Selkirk mentioned that at the afternoon’s Legislative/Governance meeting, a draft Water Management Initiative would be a discussion item on the agenda. This initiative is an attempt from CalFed to craft a set of principles to encourage regional water management , primarily funding priorities and funding mechanisms for Prop. 50 funds and building on some of the regional water management legislations which were passed in 2002. Selkirk invited comments and feedback from members to be sent to her and Cindy Darling within the next week to ten days.

Consensus Letter on ABAG’s Smart Growth Scenario

Chairman Ira Ruskin apologized for the delay in processing the draft letter addressed from the Water Management Chair to the ABAG-CALFED Task Force regarding the Water Management Sub-committees’ thoughts on the Smart Growth Planning process and its relationship to regional and local water resources.

Member Amy Fowler questioned ABAG’s next steps after the publication of the final Smart Growth report.

Keary Smith of ABAG reported that ABAG’s Planning Group had prepared a draft forecast policy analysis based on the Smart Growth vision. Smith said that the projection numbers were in circulation for review by all jurisdictions. Once the review period was completed and the subsequent adjustments made, the policy based forecast, called Projections 2003 will be forwarded to the ABAG Executive Board for review and adoption.

A consensus was reached among the members that a letter be drafted, revised and forwarded to Chairman Mike Rippey before the next Task Force Meeting of January 27, 2003.

FINAL GIS WATER SUPPLIER BOUNDARY MAP AND SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

Kearey Smith, ABAG’s GIS Coordinator, reported. Smith said that ABAG staff, in cooperation with over 100 water agencies in the Bay Area, was pleased to report the final results of the CALFED Water Management Subcommittee’s survey of water retailers. The intended purpose of the survey was to identify the service area limits of each water retail agency in the Bay Area, in order to create a map that could be used for regional, educational and planning purposes.

Smith described the detailed processes that took place while compiling the information for the project. Some of the highlights of his report were as follows:

- ABAG has identified 89 water service agencies: 5 Wholesale, 4 Wholesale and Retail, and 80 Retail.
- From the above group, 74 water agencies (83%) responded to the survey.
- ABAG staff surveyed over 100 water retailers in the region, however, several of these retailers represented rural areas with population sizes of 200 or less.
- ABAG staff decided to concentrate on collecting information from retailers who conform to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) classification of urban water districts (those districts with a population of 3,000 or greater, and are required to produce an urban water management plan).
- The data could be made available from the ABAG-CALFED website eventually.

Smith requested members to review the map and send corrections to him. Members generally agreed that this information was an impressive foundation and could be used for some ongoing projects that will require resources outside the CALFED funding in the future.

UPDATE ON THE SF BAY AREA REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM FINANCING AUTHORITY (SPEIER) AND THE WHOLESALE REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM SECURITY AND RELIABILITY ACT (PAPAN)

Chairman Ira Ruskin reported in his role as the Chair of the Committee for Regional Water Reliability. The Committee for Regional Water Reliability represents the elected officials and corporate officers of the 29 Bay Area agencies that receive water from Hetch Hetchy of San Francisco, which expands over three counties, Santa Clara, San Mateo and Alameda. The comments were as follows:

- In 2002, an effort was made to pass three pieces of legislation that in effect would enable the repair of the Hetch Hetchy Infrastructure. This was the single most important goal
- There were three pieces of legislation that were put forward, Assembly Bill 1823, Assembly Bill 2058 and Senate Bill 1873
 - Assembly Bill 1823 – To create a mandate monitored by the State where the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission would authorize the repair of the infrastructure stipulating the key number of projects involved and the general time period.
 - Assembly Bill 2058 – To set up a new water district, not to take jurisdiction away from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission over Hetch Hetchy but to select 29 agencies (cities and water districts) to look out for their own interests towards conservation, new water supplies and being an actual legal entity. Up till now these 29 agencies were

represented by Bay Area Water Users Association (BAWUA) and is not a water district nor a JPA but is an association.

- Assembly Bill 1873 – To set up a funding authority which through joint agreement between the 29 agencies could help fund the project.
- All three bills passed. Bond Measure A which was to raise 1.3 billion dollars for San Francisco's share of the fixing of the San Francisco Hetch Hetchy Water Delivery System, had also passed.
- The 29 Bay Area Agencies now have to formally vote to join this new regional district which is called "The Bay Area Regional Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BARWSCA)".
- First, 27 of the 29 water agencies, cities and water districts will first vote whether to formally become part of this district and second, who to appoint to the funding agency. 2 agencies are private companies, CALWATER and Stanford.
- By May, BARWSCA will convene as a new Water District representing 29 agencies and so will the Funding Authority. Both these agencies will then choose its officers, hire an executive director and other staff

APRIL 17TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Patricia Jones, ABAG's Assistant Executive Director and Kathleen Cha, ABAG's Senior Communications Officer gave a brief overview of ABAG's General Assembly scheduled for April 24, 2003. They said that the focus for this General Assembly will be Water and Land Use. The GA hopes to cover many issues related to water such as water resources and legislation related to water and land use.

CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES – UPDATE ON THE CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE PROCESS AND THE BAY REGION

Matt Nolberg of the Department of Water Resources, Central District provided an update on the California Water Plan Update process.

Central District is part of the division of planning and local assistance which is a division within the park and water resources. It is a part of four satellite offices whose purpose is to directly have interface on local issues within the region. One of the responsibilities of the Central District is to provide support to DPLA headquarters for the Statewide Water Plan efforts.

The purpose of the Water Plan is to present a statewide overview of current water management activities and provide a framework for regional planners and water resources people who make decisions for the future.

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area

Kamyar Guivetchi of the Department Of Water Resources is the executive lead on the California Water Plan Update. He will be speaking at an upcoming BAWAC meeting regarding an approach to complete the water plan on time. He will also talk about how to get Bay Area to participate in an example study plan of 2034.

There is a real emphasis on regional planning, regional solutions to water. Senator Machado passed a bill which requires the State Water Plan to actually look at ways for regions to minimize their influence and maximize their regional resources.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

/vm